

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5, 7-9, and 11 are amended. Claims 6 and 10 are cancelled. Claims 12-16 are newly added. Support for the amendments can be found at, for example, the originally filed claims 1-10 and paragraph 0014-0025 of the specification (*see* the published version). No new matter is added in the above amendments. Entry of the above amendments is respectfully requested. Upon entry of the above amendments, claims 1-5, 7-9, and 1-16 are pending. Reconsideration of the present application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Examiner first states that incorporation of essential material by reference to a foreign application or patent is improper. *See* page 2, item 1 of the Office Action. Applicants have now amended the specification by deleting the reference to the foreign application.

The previously presented claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for various informalities as set forth at items 1-2 on pages 2-6 of the Office Action. These informalities have now been corrected in the above amendments. Therefore, the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph have all become moot due to the above amendments.

In addition, claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101. Claim 10 has now been cancelled. Therefore, the rejection of claim 10 becomes moot.

Based on all of the above, applicants submit that the present application is now in full and proper condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable action to this effect, and early passage of the application to issue, are solicited.

Should the Examiner have any comments, questions, suggestions or objections, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned to facilitate an early resolution of any outstanding issues.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,
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